



Animal Shelter & Adoption Center

The staff would run the chamber for 45 minute cycles to ensure the dog was dead. However, I still remember the time they had to run the cycle again because a dog was still alive and I would have to say that probably happened more times than we knew about. Even though guidelines advised against using gas for very young, very old, sick or injured animals most shelters do not make that distinction and that results in needless suffering. I have also held and comforted many dogs over the years as we had to euthanize them by lethal injection and most are gone before the needle is removed... within seconds.

There are the intangibles. As hard as it is to accept euthanizing a healthy animal for space, many people understand that at this point we have to when we run out of room. They can accept that we do this as humanely and quickly as possible. However, before we changed I can remember that some people would not even come into the shelter to look for a dog to adopt as a pet because we "gassed animals" and they could not bear to think about it. We also had difficulty getting volunteers to help staff (another cost saving measure) because we "gassed animals." Now years later, our adoptions have increased and so have our volunteers.

I know that you must be aware that there are only four shelters in Michigan that still allow gassing of animals, that the transition is not difficult (I can attest to that) and that funding, training and support is available so there are no additional costs to the shelter and in fact will save them money.

It would be such a victory to have Michigan join the 20 states that have replaced gassing with humane euthanasia by injection in all their shelters.

If I can provide you with any additional information please feel free to contact me. My cell phone is 231-740-0418.

Thank you.

Connie Karry
Director
Pound Buddies Animal Shelter & Adoption Center

Putting People and Pets Together

1300 E. Keating Avenue, Muskegon MI 49442 • (231)-724-6500 • www.poundbuddies.org